

Mr. NICKLES. Madam President, I ask unanimous consent that the bill be deemed read a third time, passed, the motion to reconsider be laid upon the table, and that any statements relating to the bill be placed at the appropriate place in the RECORD.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Without objection, it is so ordered.

The bill (S. 2130) was deemed read a third time, and passed, as follows:

S. 2130

*Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives of the United States of America in Congress assembled,*

**SECTION 1. EXTENSION OF CERTAIN PRIVILEGES, EXEMPTIONS, AND IMMUNITIES TO HONG KONG ECONOMIC AND TRADE OFFICES.**

(a) APPLICATION OF INTERNATIONAL ORGANIZATIONS IMMUNITIES ACT.—The provisions of the International Organizations Immunities Act may be extended to the Hong Kong Economic and Trade Offices in the same manner, to the same extent, and subject to the same conditions, as such provisions may be extended to a public international organization in which the United States participates pursuant to any treaty or under the authority of any Act of Congress authorizing such participation or making an appropriation for such participation.

(b) APPLICATION OF INTERNATIONAL AGREEMENT ON CERTAIN STATE AND LOCAL TAXATION.—The President is authorized to apply the provisions of Article I of the Agreement on State and Local Taxation of Foreign Employees of Public International Organizations, done at Washington on April 21, 1994, to the Hong Kong Economic and Trade Offices.

(c) DEFINITION.—The term "Hong Kong Economic and Trade Offices" refers to Hong Kong's official economic and trade missions in the United States.

**EXECUTIVE SESSION**

**TREATIES**

Mr. NICKLES. Madam President, I ask unanimous consent that the Senate proceed to executive session to consider the following treaties on today's Executive Calendar:

Executive Calendar Nos. 35 through 38.

I further ask unanimous consent that the treaties be considered as having passed through their various parliamentary stages up to and including the presentation of the resolutions of ratification; that all committee provisions, reservations, understandings, et cetera, be considered agreed to; that any statements in regard to these treaties be inserted in the Congressional RECORD as if read; and that the Senate take one vote on the resolutions of ratification to be considered as separate votes; further, that when the resolutions of ratification are voted on the motion to reconsider be laid upon the table; the President then be notified of the Senate's action; and that, following disposition of the treaties, the Senate return to legislative session.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Without objection, it is so ordered.

The treaties will be considered to have passed through their various par-

liamentary stages up to and including the presentation of resolutions of ratification.

The resolutions of ratification are as follows:

**INCOME TAX CONVENTION WITH KAZAKSTAN  
EXCHANGE OF NOTES RELATING TO THE TAX  
CONVENTION WITH KAZAKSTAN**

*Resolved, (two-thirds of the Senators present concurring therein),* That the Senate advise and consent to the ratification of the Convention Between the Government of the United States of America and the Government of the Republic of Kazakhstan for the Avoidance of Double Taxation and the Prevention of Fiscal Evasion with Respect to Taxes on Income and Capital, Together with the Protocol, signed at Almaty on October 24, 1993, and Two Related Exchanges of Notes, dated August 1 and September 7, 1994, and dated August 15 and September 7, 1994 (Treaty Doc. 103-33); an Exchange of Notes dated at Washington July 10, 1995, Relating to the Convention Between the Government of the United States of America and the Government of the Republic of Kazakhstan for the Avoidance of Double Taxation and the Prevention of Fiscal Evasion with Respect to Taxes on Income and Capital, Together with a Related Protocol, signed at Almaty on October 24, 1993 (Treaty Doc. 104-15); and an Exchange of Notes, dated June 16 and 23, 1995 (EC-1431). The Senate's advice and consent is subject to the following proviso, which shall not be included in the instrument of ratification to be signed by the President:

The United States shall not exchange the instruments of ratification with the Government of the Republic of Kazakhstan until such time as the Government of the Republic of Kazakhstan has notified the Government of the United States that its laws no longer permit anonymous bank accounts to be established.

**TAXATION PROTOCOL AMENDING CONVENTION  
WITH INDONESIA**

*Resolved, (two-thirds of the Senators present concurring therein),* That the Senate advise and consent to the ratification of the Protocol, signed at Jakarta on July 24, 1996, Amending the Convention Between the Government of the United States of America and the Government of the Republic of Indonesia for the Avoidance of Double Taxation and the Prevention of Fiscal Evasion with Respect to Taxes on Income, with a Related Protocol and Exchange of Notes signed at Jakarta on July 11, 1988 (Treaty Doc. 104-32).

**PROTOCOL AMENDING ARTICLE VII OF THE 1948  
TAX CONVENTION WITH RESPECT TO THE NETHERLANDS ANTILLES**

*Resolved, (two-thirds of the Senators present concurring therein),* That the Senate advise and consent to the ratification of the Protocol Between the Government of the United States of America and the Government of the Kingdom of the Netherlands in Respect of the Netherlands Antilles Amending Article VIII of the 1948 Convention with Respect to Taxes on Income and Certain Other Taxes as Applicable to the Netherlands Antilles, signed at Washington on October 10, 1995 (Treaty Doc. 104-23).

Mr. NICKLES. I ask for a division vote on the resolutions of ratification.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. A division has been requested.

Senators in favor of the resolutions of ratification will please stand and be counted. (After a pause.) Those opposed will please stand and be counted.

On a division, two-thirds of the Senators present having voted in the af-

firmative, the resolutions of ratification are agreed to.

**LEGISLATIVE SESSION**

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Under the previous order, the Senate will return to legislative session.

Mr. NICKLES. Madam President, I thank you. I thank my colleague from Kentucky for his assistance on passing these items.

**THE PARKS LEGISLATION**

Mr. NICKLES. Madam President, one thing I would urge my colleagues—and particularly leadership on the Democrat side in the Senate—would be for us to work together to pass the parks bill. Time is growing very, very short. I know that some of our colleagues—we have a lot of colleagues who are retiring this year—have bills that they would like to get passed. And a lot of these bills are very, very important.

I have had the pleasure of working with Senator BUMPERS and Senator PRYOR on one bill, the Arkansas and Oklahoma land exchange. Senator PRYOR is going to be retiring. I would like to pass that bill before he retires.

Senator BRADLEY has worked very, very hard on Sterling Forest, as well as Senator MOYNIHAN, and others; Senator D'AMATO. Sterling Forest—we need to pass these bills. The Presidio is maybe the best known of any of these parks, a beautiful area in San Francisco. A lot of work has gone into the Presidio legislation. I know the Senators from California and others are committed to it. The Senator from California would like to have passed the Presidio legislation, and I really want to do that.

Senator HEFLIN has a couple of bills, and other colleagues who will be leaving. Many of these bills—I guess I will still be around, and some of us will be here next year. Maybe we can take care of them at that time. But a lot of our colleagues will be leaving.

I see Senator NUNN has a couple of provisions.

Most of these are not controversial. I really hope that we can get a comprehensive package before the Senate and pass it. We need to pass it today while the House is still in session.

So I would just urge our colleagues. I know the Senator from Alaska, Senator MURKOWSKI, has worked a long time on a long list of projects. I hope that we can get these through.

So I just ask for bipartisan cooperation. This is not a partisan bill. It is a bill that those of us on the Energy Committee have worked on all year.

Maybe it is not a very good way to legislate when you end up having a bill like this come toward the end of the session. But there have been holds on this bill for months.

Anyway, I just urge my colleagues on both sides of the aisle to be cooperative to see if we can't pass the Presidio bill and the land exchanges. There are a lot of positive things. I saw, I think, over